



# COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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STEPHEN R. MAGUIN  
*Chief Engineer and General Manager*

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File No.: 31-370.10

Ms. Tracie Billington  
California Department of Water Resources  
Division of Planning and Local Assistance  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1115-1  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Ms. Shahla Farahnak  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Financial Assistance  
1001 I Street, 16th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mses. Billington and Farahnak:

**Recommended Changes to Public Review Draft Proposition 50 Chapter 8  
Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program Guidelines for Round 2**

The Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Districts) welcome the opportunity to provide input on the Draft Grant Program Guidelines for Proposition 50 Chapter 8 Round 2 (Round 2). The Districts are currently involved with the preparation of an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Antelope Valley Region. The Antelope Valley Region is drafting an IRWM Plan in order to apply for Proposition 50 Chapter 8 Round 2 grant funding.

The current IRWM grant program has provided this Region, as well as Regions across the State, with an opportunity to bring together a wide range of stakeholders from federal, state, county, and local government; water agencies and companies; environmental groups; disadvantaged communities; and private businesses. At this time, the Antelope Valley Region's stakeholder process is well on its way towards completion of the Draft IRWM Plan for public review by June 2007 and adoption of the IRWM Plan by December 2007.

As requested, the Districts are providing the following recommendations to the Department of Water Resources and State Water Resources Control Board for administration of the upcoming IRWM grant program for Round 2:

**1. Establish the date for Round 2 grant awards as June 2008**

This agency supports the proposed Round 2 schedule that completes final approval of grant awards by June 2008. We believe that the schedule adequately reflects the State Water Resources

Control Board's decision on March 20, 2007 to expedite the Round 2 grant program implementation. It will also help the State implement the recently approved Propositions 84 and 1E.

**2. Establish a two-step process for Round 2 Steps 1 and 2.**

This agency supports the simplified two-step process with specific emphasis on the IRWM Plan in Step 1 and project proposal definition in Step 2.

**3. Decrease the maximum grant amount from \$25 million to \$15 million.**

This agency requests that the State reduce the maximum grant amount of \$25 million per Region to \$15 million per Region. We believe this will help disperse the limited Round 2 funds more equitably and benefit more regions in the State.

**4. Remove "Statewide Priorities" from the IRWM Plan standards.**

"Statewide Priorities" are no longer included in the scoring criteria; therefore, we recommend that the State remove them from the IRWM Plan Standards.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments for the state's administration of the Round 2 IRWM grant program, and look forward to working with the Department of Water Resources and State Water Resources Control Board to address local water resource issues.

Should you have any questions, please call Brian Dietrick at the number listed above, extension 2703.

Very truly yours,

Stephen R. Maguin



Thomas J. LeBrun  
Department Head  
Facilities Planning Department

TJL: BD:ld

cc: C. Boehmke  
R. Tremblay  
S. Green  
M. Zauner